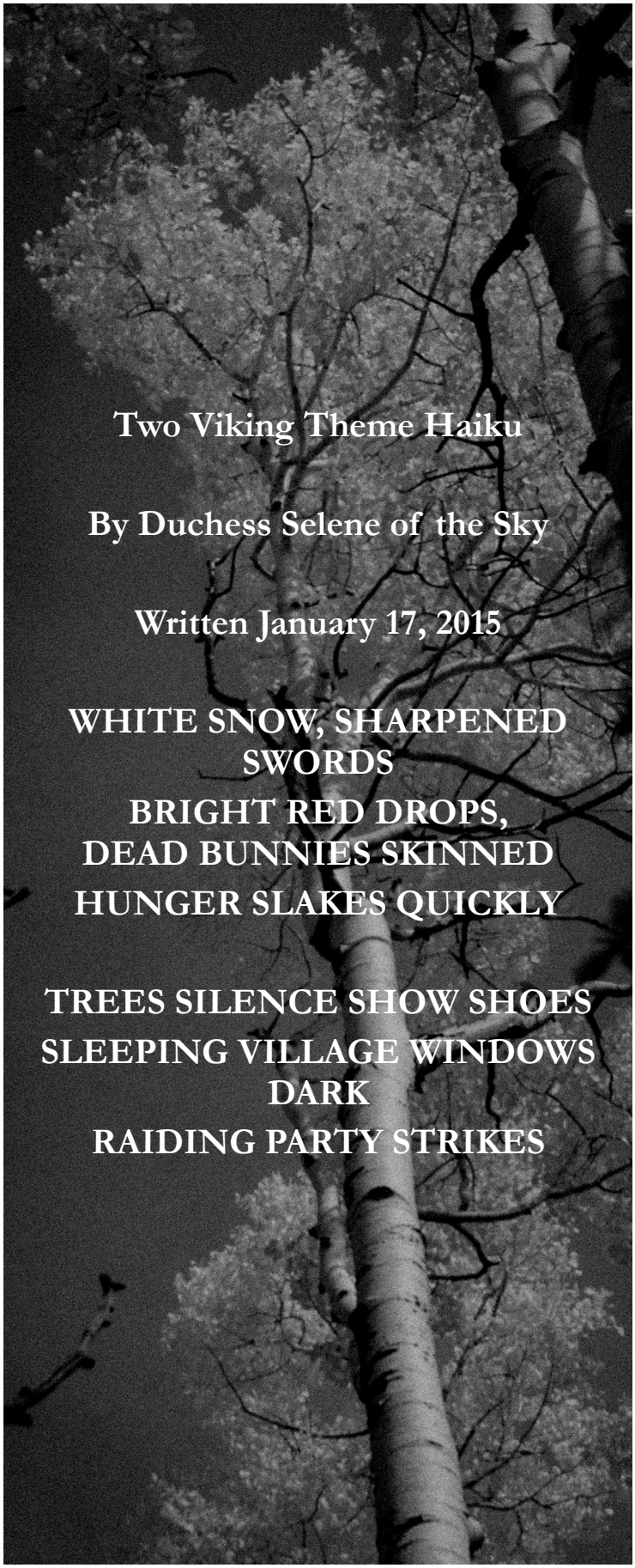
March
A.S XLIX

THE BARONY OF DRAGONSSPINE

Meiassis Dragon

Photo by Lady Bree Pye of Caer Galen



Upcoming Events

14-15 Mar Crown Tournament—Drygestan*#

15-22 Mar Gulf Wars—Meridies*

28 Mar Southern Pass Faire—Southern Pass

28 Mar Dance Collegium—Caerthe

4 Apr Feast of Fools—Dragonsspine*

11 Apr Kingdom A&S Collegium—Fontaine*

18 Apr Outlands Heralds and Scribes—Hawk's Hollow

25 Apr Mayday Festival and Oxygent Quest Tourney—Bryngolau

25-26 Apr Golden Thimble—Ravenhyrst

2 May Albequerque Renaissance Faire—al-Barran

9-10 May Coronation—Caerthe*#

16 May "The Mor you know…" A&S Collegium Draca Mor

21-25 May Grand Outlandish—al-Barran

21-25 May Inlandish—Battle of the 5 armies—Hawks Hollow#

13-14 Jun Endure—Caer Galen

18-21 Jun Northern Realms War—Northshield

21 Jun Ravenhyrst A&S Competition—Ravenhyrst

26-28 Jun Aarqueele Highlands Rapier Camp—Aarquelle

26-28 Jun Heroes and Legends—Unser Hafen

* Event is on TRM Progress
# Event is on TE Dragonsspine's Progress

Herald's Report

Greetings from your Scalene Pursuivant this 'fine' February 28 day:

If you have any questions regarding heraldry please contact me in person on Thursday nights, request a meeting not on a Thursday night, or by email at either herald@dragonsspine.org or pennytegen@yahoo.com.

Here is the current status of Dragonsspinian Heraldic submissions:

New Submissions in February at Castle (first) Level

Liliona Ruth Hampton

Name

Reyna Frogge

Name

Household: Handicamp

Name

Submissions at the Rampart (second) Level

None from Dragonsspine

Submissions in Commentary at (final) Laurel Level

Cuhelyn of Northanhymbre

Argent semy-de-lis azure, a catamount queue-forchy passant and on a chief sable three mullets of six points argent—Device

Gianni Sangermano

Per chevron sable and vert, two snow leopards sejant respectant argent marked sable and a cross crosslet Or

Submissions being Decided at Laurel Level

Abigail MacNaught

Gyronny sable and argent, a phoenix contourny gules rising from flames proper and on a chief Or three oak leaves gules

Submissions being Proofread at Laurel Level

Connor Buchanan of Loch Lomond

Name

Cuhelyn of Northanhymbre

Name

Rosalynn Buchanan of Loch Lomond

Name

Items on-hold for further updating/correction/decisions

Alikina filia Elpin

Badge

Isabeau de Bernac

Device

Hugo the Theologian

Device

Hergierr Edvinssion this is being worked for resubmission as Hergierr Audvinson

Photo by Lady Bree Pye of Caer Galen

Meeting Minutes

Officer Business:

Exchequer: There are lots of monies in the accounts

Arts and Science: Please contact ThL Browen for sponsors for Queen's Prize. The Royal Outland Inter –Kingdom University (ROIU) is going very well. Please contact ThL Bronwen or Lady Amecia for any ideas for new classes or if you wish to teach a class. If you have any projects that you are working that you care to share with the barony, please email ThL Bronwen.

Knight Marshal: Archery scores are in. If you have any issues, please contact Bernard. Many thanks to ThL Forrester for his help. Still looking into moving Outdoor practice to America the Beautiful Park downtown. Please contact Herr Sixtus or HE Lothar if you would like to donate or help. Many thanks to Herr Sixtus for his time as Knight Marshall.

Rapier Marshal: Practice is going great. We have been averaging 12 fighters per practice. Lord Antonio is looking for some help to maintenance the rapier equipment; please contact him if you wish to help.

Captain of Archery: Practice has been canceled until better weather. Please keep your eyes on the list for practice times and dates once the weather gets colder.

MOL: Master Duncan is looking at having more tourneys at fighter practice to help train field marshals.

Chronicler: The latest issue is out. Our own Don Robert and Lady Elora are in the newsletter. There is lots of cool stuff. A survey will be sent out for a "Who's Who" of the barony. Please speak to Adelaisa about any submissions that you wish to put in the Meassis Dragon. She will be taking pictures for the newsletter but will need written permission. Please see her about release forms.

Web Minster: Candlemas, Queen's Prize and the Newsletter are all up. Thank you to Fear for his service to the Barony.

Herald: Duchess Selene will be at fighter practice and available for consult elsewise by appointment. There were no new submissions but several submissions are "Moving up". If you are still waiting on a response regarding your submission, please see Duchess Selene. There will be official letters going out to the populous once your submission has passed.

Scribe: The Scribe's office has been very busy. The Kingdom Scribes list is available for sign-up. Please see ThL Aildhicinna for assignments. Please see ThL Aildhicinna for Scribes Guild meetings. Please watch the list for times and places for scribal classes. Please see DragonsSpine's Facebook page gallery for newest scroll displays. Please contact ThL Aildhicina if you have any back scrolls that you would like done or for mentoring on scrolls.

Dance practice: Has started back up. Please keep your eyes on the lists for times.

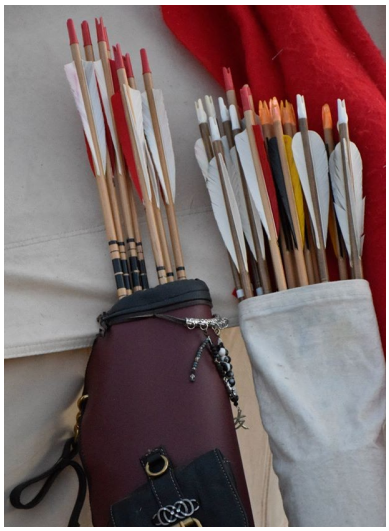
Seneschal: The A&S minister is stepping down. Please get in your letters of interest to Their Excellencies, Lord Gainni and ThL Bronwen by next business meeting. It's never too early (or too late) to submit a bid for events. Please get you bids in for any events as soon as possible.

Chatelaine: There are lots of new people and great contacts.

Gold Key: There is lots of garb. Looking for XL to XXL sizes for both men and women. Please see Basseva regarding any new donations to Gold Key.

Quartermaster: They are looking at new SCA signs and the baronial pavilion will need to have taller poles. Would like some ideas regarding visiting baronial signs. Please see Sir Alric or Lady Cera.

Baron and Baroness: Their Excellencies will be at several events, please keep your eyes on the list. If there are any ideas for events, please submit as soon as possible. Please remember to send in recommendations for awards!



Dragon Trivia

Dragon Trivia
by THL Lêofsige Ô Caoimh known as Lyssa
With the SCA's 50th anniversary just around the corner, take a few moments to test your knowledge and celebrate the long history of our society and barony. Come back next month to see the answer to our new question. Here is the answer to last month's question. How did you do? Do you have suggestions for future articles? Please contact Lyssa at leofsige@yahoo.com.

New Question:
As with many groups, the SCA has developed it's own vocabulary to identify many of our offices and activities. Knowing the real-world equivalent can make explaining our hobby easier when talking to those who don't do reenactment or recreation. While many of these terms are not the preferred terms, they remain part of our lexicon and continue in use. Match these Society Terms with their Modern Equivalents.

1. Bard in a Box
2. Banners
3. Barony, Shire, etc.
4. Troll
5. Brass Hats
6. Brass Bowl
7. Exchequer / Reeve
8. Chronicler
9. Dragons
10. Earl Marshal
    Knight Marshal
11. Feast
12. Fighter Practice
13. Garb
14. Hold
15. Kingdom
16. Seneschal
17. Live Steel
18. Arts & Sciences
19. Mundane
20. Off Board
21. Herald
22. Revel
23. Dry Site / Wet Site
24. Smalls
25. Huzzah
26. War

A. Automobiles
B. Martial arts practice and weekly social gathering
C. Ceremonial Heads of State
D. Alcohol prohibited / Alcohol allowed
E. Children
F. Clothing, costume
G. Informal party after a scheduled activity
H. Dinner
I. Editor, Publications Director
J. Flags
K. Local Chapter
L. Non-SCA activities, items, and people
M. Suggested donation gate fee
N. Cheer, Hooray, etc.
O. Regional Gathering, Convention
P. Treasurer
Q. Crafts and research
R. Regional or Local President
S. Admissions and gate
T. Heraldic Research Consultant
U. Athletic Director
V. Seating or food for non-banquet participants
W. Stereo Systems, Portable tape players
X. Stop, Safety Notice
Y. Swords, Knives, etc.
Z. Regional Branch

Previous Answer:
Caitlin Caslean an Barraigh

Trivia: While reigning over the barony, Caitlin was known as "The Dragoness of Baronsspine". She moved to Caerthe during her reign but continued to serve as baroness. Later residency requirements would be implemented requiring officers and nobles to be residents of the group in which they serve. The founding baron and baroness of a group retain that honor throughout their lives. They are known as Baron Dragonsspine or Baroness Caerthe while serving in that position. Subsequent barons and baronesses are known as "Baron of" and "Baroness of".

Photo by Lady Bree Pye of Caer Galen

Scribal Project

Greetings Unto the Populace of the Outlands.

I hope this missive finds you well. I am writing this day regarding a scribal display that is being planned for Heralds and Scribes on April 18, 2015 Gregorian AS XLIX.

The project would be a display of scrolls throughout the years. This would not be a simple A&S display. No. This would be a display on a grand scale. This would be a way to give back to the scribes who have given so much to us. It would be a way to display scrolls that were only seen for brief moments in court long ago before adorning the walls of our homes.

The vision is for scrolls from the 70s, 80s, 90s, 00s, and 10s (Is, Xs, XXs, XXXs, and XLs). The vision is for scrolls representing as many awards as possible including baronial awards. Think of a display that shows leather scrolls, triptychs, hand made paper, eggs, metal, and more. Think of a display showing the first scrolls by prolific scribes. Think of a display showing the premiere scroll of an order.

There are various logistics that are in the early stages of being worked (including protecting the scrolls and figuring out which ones to display). At this time, there are two things being sought:

1) Description of scrolls that you are willing to loan from your collection

2) Volunteers who are willing to assist on this project

If you are willing to volunteer, please send a message with the subject line "Scribal Exhibit: Volunteer". It should include a way for us to contact you and what availability you will have at Battlemoor as well as availability that you will have in advance of Battlemoor to co-ordinate some of the logistics.

If you are willing to loan your scroll please send a message with the subject line "Scribal Exhibit: Scroll". It should include the following information (if you have it):

1) The scroll recipient
2) The purpose of the scroll (e.g. the award)
3) The scribe
4) The year (Gregorian or A.S.)
5) Material (e.g. parchment, leather, etc.)
6) Approximate dimension
7) Special notes (e.g. it has special text, it is in a foreign language, etc.)

If you would like, feel free to also send a picture of the scroll but please keep the size of the image to a minimum as to avoid overflowing mailboxes.
Also, since we believe that there have been over 10,000 scrolls given throughout the history of the Outlands, and we just don't have the room to display them all, please only send information on up to 3. If you will have trouble transporting the scroll, let us know and we will try to work with you on ways to make that happen.

I want to emphasize that this is not meant to be a display of scrolls by peers or for peers. We truly wish to have a broad sampling of the artists of the Outlands. I know that I saw some scrolls given out at this past Caerthen 12th Night that were neither made by nor for a peer and could be an excellent addition to this exhibition.

I hope that you are willing to help in this endeavor. The scribes of the Outlands are amazing! Too many times I have seen a scroll read and shown in court yet never seen it again. I know I would have liked to have had a chance to look at these works of art more closely. I imagine there are many scribes who would like many people to view their work again. I imagine many of you would like to look upon them as well.

YIS,

Master Jethro Stille

Did you know it's period? Part Three

Did You Know its Period?
Part III: Satisfying Your Sweet Tooth
by HL Rowan Houndskeeper

The end of an old year and the start of a new one brings the holidays and their emphasis on celebration, social gatherings, and the inevitable holiday dessert table. In period they liked their calorie-laden sweets just as much as we do today. In fact, according to the 1542 book *Dyetary of Helth, "All meates and drinkes the which is swete and that sugar is in, be nutrytyve [nuitritive]" (as quoted in To the Queen's Taste). Various types of candies, puddings, and pies were prevalent throughout all of the times and cultures we recreate, and numerous recipes exist in the period cookbooks. They had cookies and cakes, too, but they were not quite what we are used to today.*

The biggest thing to remember about medieval desserts is that they did not have either baking soda or baking powder. Instead, the leavening agent that allowed cakes and cookies to rise was yeast. Honey was a common sweetener, but sugar from cane sugar was also available in Europe, brought back from the Middle East after the Crusades. Here are some surprisingly modern medieval and renaissance desserts to add to your next holiday table.

SUGAR PLATE = ROCK CANDY

Take a lb. of fayr clarefyde suger and put it in a panne and sette it on a furneys, & gar it sethe the mountynance of a Ave Maria, whill evermore steryng wyth a spatur, and sette it of ageyne, but lat it noght wax over styfe for cause of powrynge. And loke thou have redy beforne a fair litel marbill stone and a litell flour of ryse in a bagge, shakyng over the marbill stone till it be overhilled, and than powre thi suger theron as thin as it may renne, for the thinnner the platen the fairer it is. If thou willt, put therin any diverse flours, that is to say roses leves, violet leves, gilofre leves, or any other flour leves, kut them small and put them in whan the suger comes first fro the fyre. And if thou wilt mak fyne suger plate, put therto att the first sethyng ii unces of rose water, and if ye will make rede plate, put therto i unce of fine tournesole clene waschen at the fyrst sethyng.

Curye on Inglysch (14th c. English)

Translation

Take a pound of fair clarified sugar and put it into a pan, and set it on a flame and let it boil for the time it takes to say an Ave Maria prayer while stirring with a spatula, and set it off (the fire) again, but don't let it get too stiff for pouring. And look that you have ready beforehand a fair little marble stone and a little rice flour in a bag, shaking [the rice flour] over the marble stone till it is covered, and then pour the sugar thereon as thin as it may run, for the thinner the plate is the fairer it is. If you wish, put therein any diverse flowers, that is rose petals, violet petals, gillyflower petals, or any other flower petals, cut them small and put them in when the sugar first comes off the fire [and before pouring]. And if you wish to make fine sugar plate, at the first boil put in 2 ounces of rosewater, and if you wish to make red plate put in 1 ounce of fine *tournesole, clean and washed, and add it at the first boil.*

Redaction

2 c. Sugar (Sugar Cane sugar, not Beet sugar)
1/3 c. Water
1/3 c. Rosewater
Rice flour or oil
Food coloring (Optional)
Diced flower petals (Optional)

Place rice flour in a thin muslin cloth bag and shake a thin layer of rice flour over a marble candy slab. If you don't have a marble candy slab, lightly oil a cookie sheet.

Combine sugar, water, and rosewater in a saucepan, place on highest heat, and stir with wooden spoon JUST until sugar is dissolved. Put in a candy thermometer and cook to hard-crack stage (310 degrees). Brush down sides with cold wet pastry brush, but DO NOT STIR sugar after crystals are dissolved or it will cause crystallization and a sugary mess.

At hard crack stage turn off the heat and quickly stir in food coloring (if desired). This is also the stage that you can quickly stir in flower petals if desired. Dip the base of the pan in cool water and allow sugar to stand just long enough for the bubbles to disappear. Pour out onto prepared slab or cookie sheet so that it forms broad thin disks, and let cool until brittle. Store in an air tight container.

Period Sugar Plate is nearly identical to modern recipes for clear hard candies such as rock candy and lollipops. The only difference between this redacted period recipe and a modern recipe in *The Complete Wilton Book of Candy is that the flavoring is rosewater, substituted for half of the water in the modern recipe, instead of an oil based flavoring stirred in with the food coloring. Although this redaction calls for making "plates" you can also pour it into a form to make hard candies or "stained glass", or break it up to form slivers of sugar glass (rock candy).*

Adding flower petals, as in the period recipe, can have an interesting effect, but if you choose to add flower petals be sure to use only organic, edible varieties of flower petals – and make sure they haven't been exposed to any pesticides.

Did You Know it's Period?...continued

RICE PUDDING

Rice Puddings. Take halfe a pound of Rice, and steep it in new Milk the whole night, and in the morning drain it, and let the Milk drop away, and take a quart of the best, sweetest, and thickest Cream, and put the Rice into it, and boyl it a little. Then set it to cool an hour or two, and after put in the yolkes of half a dozen eggs, a little Pepper, Cloves, Mace, Currants, Dates, Sugar, and Salt, and having mixt them well together, put in a grat store of Beef suet well beaten, and small shred, and so put it into the farms, and boyl them as before shewed, and serve them after a day old.

The English Hous-wife (1683, English)

Translation:

It's Post-Elizabethan English, London dialect – I shouldn't need to translate it for anyone. :)

Redaction

6 c. Milk
1 c. White rice (not instant rice)
1/2 c. Sugar
1 c. Heavy cream
1/4 tsp Salt
2 Tbsp Butter
1/8 tsp Cloves
1/8 tsp Mace
1/4 c. Currants (or raisins)
1/4 c. Minced dates

Mix fruit and spices together well and set aside. Add to a large pot the milk, rice, sugar, butter and salt. Bring to a gentle boil over medium heat, stirring frequently. Reduce heat, cover pot, and allow to simmer for ~45 mins or until rice is tender, stirring occasionally. Drain off excess milk. Add cream, bring to a boil, and then immediately remove from heat. Refrigerate until chilled. Fold fruit and spice mix into the pudding so that it is evenly distributed. Serve either warm or cold. To serve warm, simmer the pudding over gentle heat until warm.

Rice was an imported grain in England, and thus a luxury item listed in household accounts along with such items as spices. The "*farms" or forms (molds) mentioned in the recipe allowed the puddings to be cooked, stored, and served in a single container. Alternatively, it is possible that the puddings were removed from the form for serving much the same way we use Jello molds today.*

This recipe for rice pudding is actually from an out of period edition (1683) of the *English Housewife (originally printed in 1615). It is a fancier dish than both many modern and earlier-period versions of rice pudding that I have seen. I've included a couple of other earlier period recipes here (below) for you to redact yourself.*

I have omitted the eggs and pepper in the above redaction, making it closer to most modern rice pudding recipes, but it is also good with them, if a bit different to modern tastes. Beef suet is found in many period recipes, and most modern redactions substitute lard or butter (as was done here). But you can buy beef suet at a butcher's shop and process it in your food processor to get the "well beaten" consistency required by the recipe if you want.

Two Earlier-Period Versions of Rice Pudding

Rys. Take a porcyoun of Rys, & pyke hem clene, & sethe hem welle, & late hem kele; pen take gode Mylke of Almaundys & do per-to, & sepe & stere hem wyl; & do per-to Sugre an hony, & serue f.

- Two Fifteenth Century Cook Books (15th c. English)

Translation

Rice. Take a portion of rice, and pick it clean, and boil it well, and let it cool; then take good almond milk and do [add it] thereto, and boil [it], and stir it well; and do [add] thereto sugar and honey, and serve it forth.

Ryse of fische daye. Blaunche almaundes & grynde hem, & drawe hem vp wyt watur. Wesche þi ryse clene, & do þerto sugur roche and salt: let hyt be stondyng. Frye almaundes browne, & floriche hyt þerwyt, or wyt sugur.

- Curye on Inglysch (14th c. English)

Translation

Rice of Fish Day. Blanch almonds and grind them and draw them up with water [Make almond milk]. Wash your rice clean and do [add] thereto sugar, roche [the almond milk] and salt: let it stand. Fry almonds brown, and flourish [sprinkle] it therewith, or with sugar.

Did You Know it's Period?...the conclusion

TARTYS IN APPLIS = APPLE PIE

Tak gode applys & gode spycis & figys & reysons & perys, & wan they arn wel ybrayd colour wyth safroun wel & do yt in a cofyn, & do yt forth to bake wel.

- Curye on Inglysch (14th c. English)

Translation

Take good apples and good spices and figs and raisins and pears, and when they are well *brayed [ground, mixed, or mushed] color with saffron well and put in a coffin [pie with both top and bottom crusts] and do it forth to bake well.*

Redaction

3 Apples
2 Pears
1/2 c. Figs, chopped
1/2 c. Currants or raisins
1/4 c. Sugar
1/4 c. Brown sugar
1/4 tsp Each of nutmeg, mace, salt
1/8 tsp Ground cloves
1/8 tsp Coarsely ground pepper
1/8 tsp Dried orange peel (or fresh orange zest)
1 to 1-1/2 tsp Cinnamon
1 Pie shell or tart shells (see below)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees . Peel and core apples and pears and chop them small – you want the pieces to be ~1/2" square or less. Mix together the sugar and all the spices. Mix all the fruit together in a bowl with approximately half of the sugar/spice mix. Put a layer of the fruit mix into a pie shell (recipe below) and sprinkle with some of the saved sugar/spice mix. Repeat layering fruit mix and sugar/spice mix until the pie shell is full, ending with sugar/spice mix sprinkled over the top. Bake for approximately 45 minutes. This makes a rather large pie (9"-10"), or ~20 tartlets (2"), but if making tarts reduce baking time to ~25 minutes.

Pie Dough Recipe

3 c. Flour
3/4 c. Canola or olive oil
3/8 c. Ice water

Mix water and oil together, stirring briskly, and then add them to the flour, mixing together to form a dough. Split the dough in two, and roll each half separately between 2 floured wax papers. Do not freeze dough to roll out later, although you may roll it out and freeze it in the pie pan. Makes a top and bottom crust for a 9-inch pie.

This particular period apple pie recipe calls for pears and other fruits as well as apples, resulting in a more complex taste than the standard modern apple pie. There are in fact numerous period recipes for apple-pie-type desserts. Some are quite different to modern tastes, containing cheese, meats, or vegetables, while others are closer to the classic American dessert. In fact, my interest in redacting period recipes came from casually reading a translated (but not redacted) period German recipe and realizing "Hey, that sounds exactly like my grandma's recipe for applesauce pie!"

TO MAKE SNOW = WHIPPED CREAM

To make a dissh full of Snow. Take a potell of swete thicke creame and the whites of eight egges & beate them al togider with a spone / then put them in youre creame and a saucer full of Rosewater and a disshe full of Suger with all / than take a sticke & make it cleane / and than cutte it in the ende foure square / and there with heate all the aforesayde thinges togither / & ever as it ryseth take it of and put it into a Collander / this done / take one apple and set it in the myddes of it and a thicke busshe of Rosemary and set it in the middes of the plater / then cast your Snow upon the Rosemary & fyll your platter therewith. And if you have wafers cast some in with all and thus serue them forth.

- A Propre new booke of Cokery (15th c. English)

Translation

To make a dish full of Snow. Take a pot of sweet thick cream, and the whites of eight eggs & beat them together with a spoon / then put them into your cream and a saucer full of Rosewater and a dish full of Sugar / then take a clean stick and then cut it in the end four square [make a whisk]/ and therewith heat all the aforesaid things [cream, egg whites, rosewater and sugar] together [while using the whisk to beat it] & ever as it rises take if off and put it into a colander / this done / take an apple and set it in the midst of it and a thick bush of Rosemary and set it in the middle of a platter / then cast your Snow upon the Rosemary &

Did You Know it's Period?...the conclusion

fill your platter therewith. And if you have wafers cast them around the edges and thus serve them forth.

Redaction

Take a half gallon of cream, along with eight egg whites, 8 tsps rosewater, and 2c sugar as mentioned and place in a pot. Gently heat ingredients together while whisking or beating until you get a meringue or whipped cream consistency. Serve on a platter with an apple and rosemary branch in the center and wafers around the perimeter.

A Second Recipe for Snow

(55) Ain schne zú machen
Nitz ain milchram vnnd thú den jn den haffen/ vnnd nim ain klúxen vnd rier jn dúrchainander, bis es ain schne oben gewint/ vnnd bee ain semel vnnd legs jn ain schissel vnd see daraúff ain zúcker vnnd thú den schom aúff das brot, so jst es berait.

- Das Kuchbuch der Sabina Welserin (1553 German)

Translation

(55) To make a snow
Take dilute cream and put it in a pot. And take an eggbeater and stir it thoroughly, until it forms snowy foam on top. And toast a *Semmel and lay it in a bowl and sprinkle sugar over it and put the foam on the bread, then it is ready.*

Redaction

Take a pint of half-and-half and whip it until fluffy. Place a warm glazed sweet roll on your platter and cover with the whipped cream.

The two period recipes presented here for "Snow" are fairly clear that this was meant as a sort of subtlety. In the simpler German recipe the whipped cream was served over a toasted and sugared *Semmel [a mildly sweet bread roll] resulting in "snow" on a "hill" made of a hot, glazed sweet roll. The English recipe on the other hand indicates that it was served as a mound of whipped cream on a platter around an apple and a small rosemary plant to simulate a snow covered landscape complete with a "boulder" and "tree". In this recipe it was served with wafers for scooping up the whipped cream and eating with it. Most modern tastes (at least the adult ones) might find eating straight whipped cream a bit much, so you can stick to mounding it on your apple pie from the recipe above.*

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A Propre New Booke of Cokery. 1575. A. Veale at http://www.medievalcookery.com/notes/pnboc1575.txt

Das Kuchbuch der Sabina Welserine. 1553. V. Armstrong. at http://www.daviddfriedman.com/Medieval/Cookbooks/Sabrina_Welserin.html

Gode Cookery website at http://www.godecookery.com/godeboke/godeboke.htm

Chapter 46 - Of Thorolf's and Egil's harrying.

Thorolf and Egil stayed that winter with Thorir, and were made much of. But in spring they got ready a large war-ship and gathered men thereto, and in summer they went the eastern way and harried; there won they much wealth and had many battles. They held on even to Courland, and made a peace for half a month with the men of the land and traded with them. But when this was ended, then they took to harrying, and put in at divers places. One day they put in at the mouth of a large river, where was an extensive forest upon land. They resolved to go up the country, dividing their force into companies of twelve. They went through the wood, and it was not long before they came to peopled parts. There they plundered and slew men, but the people fled, till at last there was no resistance. But as the day wore on, Thorolf had the blast sounded to recall his men down to the shore. Then each turned back from where they were into the wood. But when Thorolf mustered his force, Egil and his company had not come down; and the darkness of night was closing in, so that they could not, as they thought, look for him.

Now Egil and his twelve had gone through a wood and then saw wide plains and tillage. Hard by them stood a house. For this they made, and when they came there they ran into the house, but could see no one there. They took all the loose chattels that they came upon. There were many rooms, so this took them a long time. But when they came out and away from the house, an armed force was there between them and the wood, and this attacked them. High palings ran from the house to the wood; to these Egil bade them keep close, that they might not be come at from all sides. They did so. Egil went first, then the rest, one behind the other, so near that none could come between.

The Courlanders attacked them vigorously, but mostly with spears and javelins, not coming to close quarters. Egil's party going forward along the fence did not find out till too late that another line of palings ran along on the other side, the space between narrowing till there was a bend and all progress barred. The Courlanders pursued after them into this pen, while some set on them from without, thrusting javelins and swords through the palings, while others cast clothes on their weapons. Egil's party were wounded, and after that taken, and all bound, and so brought home to the farmhouse.

The owner of that farm was a powerful and wealthy man; he had a son grown up. Now they debated what they should do with their prisoners. The goodman said that he thought this were best counsel, to kill them one on the heels of another. His son said that the darkness of night was now closing in, and no sport was thus gotten by their torture; he bade them be let bide till the morning. So they were thrust into a room and strongly bound. Egil was bound hand and foot to a post. Then the room was strongly locked, and the Courlanders went into the dining-hall, ate, drank, and were merry.

Egil strained and worked at the post till he loosed it up from the floor. Then the post fell, and Egil slipped himself off it. Next he loosed his hands with his teeth. But when his hands were loose, he loosed therewith the bonds from his feet. And then he freed his comrades; but when they were all loosed they searched round for the likeliest place to get out. The room was made with walls of large wooden beams, but at one end thereof was a smooth planking. At this they dashed and broke it through. They had now come into another room; this too had walls of wooden beams. Then they heard men's voices below under their feet. Searching about they found a trapdoor in the floor, which they opened. Thereunder was a deep vault; down in it they heard men's voices. Then asked Egil what men were these. He who answered named himself Aki. Would he like to come up, asked Egil. Aki answered, they would like it much.

Then Egil and his comrades lowered into the vault the rope with which they had been bound, and drew up thence three men. Aki said that these were his two sons, and they were Danes, who had been made prisoners of war last summer.

'I was,' he said, 'well treated through the winter, and had the chief care of the goodman's property; but the lads were enslaved and had a hard lot. In spring we made up our minds to run away, but were retaken. Then we were cast into this vault.'

'You must know all about the plan of this house,' said Egil; 'where have we the best hope to get out?'

Aki said that there was another plank partition: 'Break you up that, you will then come into a corn-store, whereout you may go as you will.'

Egil's men did so; they broke up the planking, came into the granary, and thence out. It was pitch dark.

Then said Egil's comrades that they should hasten to the wood. But Egil said to Aki, 'If you know the house here, you can show us the way to some plunder.'

Egil's Saga—Part Eight...continued

Aki said there was no lack of chattels. 'Here is a large loft in which the goodman sleeps; therein is no stint of weapons.'

Egil bade them go to that loft. But when they came to the staircase head they saw that the loft was open. A light was inside, and servants, who were making the beds. Egil bade some stay outside and watch that none came out. Egil ran into the loft, seized weapons, of which there was no lack. They slew all the men that were in there, and they armed themselves fully. Aki went to a trapdoor in the floor and opened it, telling them that they should go down by this to the store-room below. They got a light and went thither. It was the goodman's treasury; there were many costly things, and much silver. There the men took them each a load and carried it out. Egil took under his arm a large mead-cask, and bare it so.

But when they came to the wood, then Egil stopped, and he said:

'This our going is all wrong, and not warlike. We have stolen the goodman's property without his knowing thereof. Never ought that shame to be ours. Go we back to the house, and let him know what hath befallen.'

All spoke against that, saying they would make for the ship.

Egil set down the mead-cask, then ran off, and sped him to the house. But when he came there, he saw that serving-lads were coming out of the kitchen with dishes and bearing them to the dining-hall. In the kitchen (he saw) was a large fire and kettles thereon. Thither he went. Great beams had been brought home and lighted, as was the custom there, by setting fire to the beam-end and so burning it lengthwise. Egil seized a beam, carried it to the dining-hall, and thrust the burning end under the eaves, and so into the birch bark of the roof, which soon caught fire. Some fagot-wood lay hard by; this Egil brought and piled before the hall-door. This quickly caught fire. But those who sate drinking within did not find it out till the flame burst in round the roof. Then they rushed to the door; but there was no easy way out, both by reason of the fagot-wood, and because Egil kept the door, and slew most who strove to pass out either in the doorway or outside.

The goodman asked who had the care of the fire.

Egil answered, 'He has now the care of the fire whom you yester-even had thought least likely; nor will you wish to bake you hotter than I shall kindle; you shall have soft bath before soft bed, such as you meant to give to me and my comrades. Here now is that same Egil whom you bound hand and foot to the post in that room you shut so carefully. I will repay you your hospitality as you deserve.'

At this the goodman thought to steal out in the dark, but Egil was near, and dealt him his death-blow, as he did to many others. Brief moment was it ere the hall so burned that it fell in. Most of those who were within perished.

But Egil went back to the wood, where he found his comrades, and they all went together to the ship. Egil said he would have the mead-cask which he carried as his own special prize; it proved to be full of silver. Thorolf and his men were overjoyed when Egil came down. They put out from land as soon as day dawned; Aki and his two sons were with Egil's following. They sailed in the summer, now far spent, to Denmark, where they lay in wait for merchant-ships, and plundered when they got the chance.

Chapter 47 - Of the further harrying of Thorolf and Egil.

Harold Gormsson had then taken the kingdom in Denmark, his father Gorm being now dead. The land was then open to harrying; freebooters often lay off the Danish coast. Aki knew Denmark well both by sea and land. So Egil inquired of him diligently where the places were that promised good booty. But when they came to Eyrar-sound, then Aki said that up on land there was a large trading town named Lundr; there, he said, was hope of plunder, but 'twas likely that the townsmen would make resistance.

The question was put before the men whether they should go up or not. Opinions were much divided, some liking, some letting it; then the matter was referred to the leaders. Thorolf was rather for going up. Then Egil was asked what counsel he thought good. He recited a stave:

'Wolf-battening warrior,
Wield we high gleaming swords.
In snake-fostering summer
Such deeds well beseem.
Lead up to Lundr:
Let laggards be none!
Spear-music ungentle
By sunset shall sound.'

After that they made them ready to go up, and they came to the town. But when the townsmen were aware of the enemy's coming, they made against them. A wooden wall was round the town; they set men to guard this.

Egil's Saga—Part Seven...the conclusion

A very fierce battle was there fought. Egil, with his following, charged fiercely on the gate nor spared himself. There was a great slaughter, the townsmen falling one upon another. It is said that Egil first entered the town, the others following. Then those of the town fled, and great was the slaughter. But Thorolf and his company plundered the town and took much wealth, and fired the buildings before they left. Then they went down to their ships.

Chapter 48 - Of the banquet at earl Arnfid's.

Thorolf stood northwards with his force past Holland, and they put into a harbour there, as the wind drove them back. They did not plunder there. A little way up the country dwelt an earl named Arnfid. But when he heard that freebooters had come to land there, he sent his men to meet them with this errand, to know whether they wished for peace or war. Upon the messengers' coming to Thorolf with their errand, he said that they would not harry there, that there was no need to harry there or come with warshield, the land being not wealthy. The messengers went back to the earl, and told him the issue of their errand: but when the earl knew that he need not gather men for this cause, then he rode down without any armed force to meet the freebooters. When they met, all went well at the conference. The earl bade Thorolf to a banquet with him, and as many of his men as he would. Thorolf promised to go.

On the appointed day the earl had riding-horses sent down to meet them. Thorolf and Egil went, and they had thirty men with them. When they came to the earl, he received them well; they were led into the dining-hall. At once beer was brought in and given them to drink. They sate there till evening.

But before the tables were removed the earl said that they should cast lots to drink together in pairs, man and woman, so far as numbers would allow, but the odd ones by themselves. They cast then their lots into the skirt of a cloak, and the earl drew them out. The earl had a very beautiful daughter then in the flower of youth; the lot decreed that Egil should sit by her for the evening. She was going about the floor of the hall amusing herself. Egil stood up and went to the place in which the earl's daughter had sat during the day. But when all took their several seats, then the earl's daughter went to her place. She said in verse:

'Why sittest in my seat, youth?
Thou seldom sure hast given
To wolf his warm flesh-banquet.
Alone I will mine own.
O'er carrion course thou heard'st not
Croak hoarse the joying raven,
Nor wentest where sword-edges
In warfare madly met.'

Egil took her, and set her down by him. He sang:

'With bloody brand on-striding
Me bird of bane hath followed:
My hurtling spear hath sounded
In the swift Vikings' charge.
Raged wrathfully our battle,
Ran fire o'er foemen's rooftrees;
Sound sleepeth many a warrior
Slain in the city gate.'

They two then drank together for the evening, and were right merry. The banquet was of the best, on that day and on the morrow. Then the rovers went to their ships, they and the earl parting in friendship with exchange of gifts.

Thorolf with his force then stood for the Brenn-islands. At that time these were a great lair of freebooters, because through the islands sailed many merchant-ships. Aki went home to his farms, and his sons with him. He was a very wealthy man, owning several farms in Jutland. He and Thorolf parted with affection, and pledged them to close friendship. But as autumn came on, Thorolf and his men sailed northward along the Norway coast till they reached the Firths, then went to lord Thorir.

He received them well, but Arinbjorn his son much better, who asked Egil to be there for the winter. Egil took this offer with thanks. But when Thorir knew of Arinbjorn's offer, he called it rather a hasty speech. 'I know not,' said he, 'how king Eric may like that; for after the slaying of Bard he said that he would not have Egil be here in the land.'

'You, father, can easily manage this with the king,' said Arinbjorn, 'so that he will not blame Egil's stay. You will ask Thorolf, your niece's husband, to be here; I and Egil will have one winter home.'

Thorir saw from this talk that Arinbjorn would have his way in this. So father and son offered Thorolf winter-home there, which he accepted. They were there through the winter with twelve men.

Egil's Saga—Part Seven...the conclusion

Two brothers there were named Thorvald Proud and Thorfid Strong, near kinsmen of Bjorn Yeoman, and brought up with him. Tall men they were and strong, of much energy and forward daring. They followed Bjorn so long as he went out roving; but when he settled down in quiet, then these brothers went to Thorolf, and were with him in his harrying; they were forecastle men in his ship. And when Egil took command of a ship, then Thorfid was his forecastle man. These brothers followed Thorolf throughout, and he valued them most of his crew.

They were of his company this winter, and sate next to the two brothers. Thorolf sate in the high seat over against Thorir, and drank with him; Egil sate as cup-mate over against Arinbjorn. At all toasts the cup must cross the floor.

Lord Thorir went in the autumn to king Eric. The king received him exceedingly well. But when they began to talk together, Thorir begged the king not to take it amiss that he had Egil with him that winter. The king answered this well; he said that Thorir might get from him what he would, but it should not have been so had any other man harboured Egil. But when Gunnhilda heard what they were talking of, then said she: 'This I think, Eric, that 'tis now going again as it has gone often before; thou lendest easy ear to talk, nor bearest long in mind the ill that is done thee. And now thou wilt bring forward the sons of Skallagrim to this, that they will yet again smite down some of thy near kin. But though thou mayest choose to think Bard's slaying of no account, I think not so.'

The king answered: 'Thou, Gunnhilda, more than others provokest me to savageness; yet time was when thou wert on better terms with Thorolf than now. However I will not take back my word about those brothers.'

'Thorolf was well here,' said she, 'before Egil made him bad; but now I reckon no odds between them.'

Thorir went home when he was ready, and told the brothers the words of the king and of the queen.

Chapter 49 - Slaying of Thorvald Proud.

Eyvind Skreyja and Alf were the names of two brothers of Gunnhilda, sons of Auzur Toti. They were tall and strong, and great traders. They were then made much of by king Eric and Gunnhilda. Not generally liked were they; at this time they were young, but fully grown to manhood. It so befell in the spring that a great sacrifice was fixed to be held in the summer at Gaular. Here was the most renowned chief temple. Thither flocked numbers from the firths and from the fells, and from Sogn, and almost all the great men. King Eric went thither. Then spoke Gunnhilda with her brothers: 'I would fain that you two should so manage matters in this crowded gathering, that ye get to slay one of the two sons of Skallagrim, or, better still, both.'

They said it should be done.

Lord Thorir made ready to go thither. He called Arinbjorn to speak with him. 'Now will I,' said he, 'go to the sacrifice, but I will not that Egil go thither. I know the craft of Gunnhilda, the vehemence of Egil, the power of the king; no easy task were it to watch these all at once. But Egil will not let himself be hindered, unless you stay behind. Now Thorolf and the rest of his company shall go with me; Thorolf shall sacrifice and pray for happiness for his brother as well as himself.'

Whereupon Arinbjorn told Egil that he meant to stay at home; 'and you shall be with me,' said he.

Egil agreed that it should be so.

But Thorir and the rest went to sacrifice, and a very great multitude was there, and there was much drinking. Thorolf went with Thorir wheresoever he went, and they never were apart day or night. Eyvind told Gunnhilda that he could get no chance at Thorolf. She bade him then slay some one of Thorolf's men rather than let everything fail.

It chanced one evening, when the king had gone to rest, as had also Thorir and Thorolf, but Thorfid and Thorvald still sate up, that the two brothers Eyvind and Alf came and sat down by them, and were very merry. First they drank as one drinking-party; but presently it came to this, that each should drink half a horn, Eyvind and Thorvald being paired together to drink, and Alf and Thorfid.

Now as the evening wore on there was unfair drinking; next followed bandying of words, then insulting language. Then Eyvind jumped up, drew a sword, and thrust at Thorvald, dealing him a wound that was his death. Whereupon up jumped on either side the king's men and Thorir's house-carles. But men were all weaponless in there, because it was sanctuary. Men went between and parted them who were most furious; nor did anything more happen that evening.

Eyvind had slain a man on holy ground; he was therefore made accursed, and had to go abroad at once. The king offered a fine for the man; but

Egil's Saga—Part Seven...the conclusion

Thorolf and Thorfid said they never had taken man-fine, and would not take this. With that they parted. Thorir and his company went home. King Eric and Gunnhilda sent Eyvind south to Denmark to king Harold Gormsson, for he might not now abide on Norwegian soil. The king received him and his comrades well: Eyvind brought to Denmark a large war-ship. He then appointed Eyvind to be his coastguard there against freebooters, for Eyvind was a right good warrior.

In the spring following that winter Thorolf and Egil made them ready to go again a-freebooting. And when ready, they again stood for the eastern way. But when they came to Vik, they sailed then south along Jutland, and harried there; then went to Friesland, where they stayed for a great part of the summer; but then stood back for Denmark. But when they came to the borderland where Denmark and Friesland meet, and lay by the land there, so it was that one evening when they on shipboard were preparing for sleep, two men came to Egil's ship, and said they had an errand to him. They were brought before him. They said that Aki the wealthy had sent them thither with this message: 'Eyvind Skreyja is lying out off Jutland-side, and thinks to waylay you as you come from the south. And he has gathered such large force as ye cannot withstand if ye encounter it all at once; but he himself goes with two light vessels, and he is even now here close by you.'

But when these tidings came before Egil, at once he and his took down their tenting. He bade them go silently; they did so. They came at dawn to where Eyvind and his men lay at anchor; they set upon them at once, hurling both stones and spears. Many of Eyvind's force fell there; but he himself leapt overboard and got to land by swimming, as did all those of his men who escaped. But Egil took his ships, cargo, and weapons.

They went back that day to their own company, and met Thorolf. He asked wither Egil had gone, and where he had gotten those ships with which they came. Egil said that Eyvind Skreyja had had the ships, but they had taken them from him. Then sang Egil:

'In struggle sternly hard
We strove off Jutland-side:
Well did the warrior fight,
Warder of Denmark's realm.
Till, with his wights o'erborne,
Eastwards from wave-horse high
To swim and seek the sand
Swift Eyvind Skreyja leapt.'

Thorolf said: 'Herein ye have so wrought, methinks, that it will not serve us as our autumn plan to go to Norway.'

Egil said it was quite as well, though they should seek some other place.

Chapter 50 - Of Athelstan king of the English.

Alfred the Great ruled England, being of his family the first supreme king over England. That was in the days of Harold Fairhair, king of Norway. After Alfred, Edward his son was king in England. He was father of Athelstan the Victorious, who was foster-father of Hacon the Good. It was at this time of our story that Athelstan took the kingdom after his father. There were several brothers sons of Edward.

But when Athelstan had taken the kingdom, then those chieftains who had before lost their power to his forefathers rose in rebellion; now they thought was the easiest time to claim back their own, when a young king ruled the realm. These were Britons, Scots, and Irish. King Athelstan therefore gathered him an army, and gave pay to all such as wished to enrich themselves, both foreigners and natives.

The brothers Thorolf and Egil were standing southwards along Saxony and Flanders, when they heard that the king of England wanted men, and that there was in his service hope of much gain. So they resolved to take their force thither. And they went on that autumn till they came to king Athelstan. He received them well; he saw plainly that such followers would be a great help. Full soon did the English king decide to ask them to join him, to take pay there, and become defenders of his land. They so agreed between them that they became king Athelstan's men.

England was thoroughly Christian in faith, and had long been so, when these things happened. King Athelstan was a good Christian; he was called Athelstan the Faithful. The king asked Thorolf and his brother to consent to take the first signing with the cross, for this was then a common custom both with merchants and those who took soldiers' pay in Christian armies, since those who were 'prime-signed' (as 'twas termed) could hold all intercourse with Christians and heathens alike, while retaining the faith which was most to their mind. Thorolf and Egil did this at the king's request, and both let themselves be prime-signed. They had three hundred men with them who took the king's pay.

Egil's Saga—Part Seven...the conclusion

Currently open for commentary is a proposal for the closure of the office of the chirurgeonate. The language for this proposal can be found below. The Board of Directors recognizes that this topic is controversial and would like to emphasize that commentary is being accepted until July 1, 2015, and would strongly recommend that all members forward their opinions for consideration.

Over the last number of years, issues have been brought to the attention of the Board and Society Officers regarding the chirurgeonate as it is currently organized. These issues included numerous disputes between chirurgeons regarding availability of over-the-counter medications, interactions between chirurgeons and contracted EMS personnel at large events, interactions between event participants and chirurgeons, and differences between first aid provider credentials available in different states, provinces and countries. The frequency of issues and the potential for liability to the SCA as an organization prompted the President to ask the SCA's insurance carrier to clarify whether the duties of the Society Chirurgeon, as described in Corpora, are covered by the SCA's policy. In addition, a request for opinion was made to outside counsel to consider whether the risk of not having an office of the chirurgeonate created more liability for the SCA than keeping the existing office of the chirurgeonate. The response from the insurance carrier was that the duties of the Society Chirurgeon, as defined in Corpora, were not covered under the insurance policy, and there was not an available option for coverage of those duties. The response from outside counsel was that there is more liability to the SCA if the SCA has an office of the chirurgeonate.

The Board requested that a committee of current chirurgeons from across multiple North American kingdoms consider options: revising the existing office; evaluating insurance options specific to that office; eliminating that office. Given the recommendations from that committee, the following Corpora changes are proposed.

There is no intention to release the heraldry currently associated with the functions of volunteer first aiders participating in the SCA, nor to prohibit any individual from volunteering as a volunteer first aider. This proposal is driven by issues from the North American branches of the SCA. Non-North American SCA affiliates will need to determine their own needs regarding regulation of provision of first aid.

Table of Contents

Current text:

VI. H. Society Chirurgeon

Proposed change:

Delete H. Society Chirurgeon

Re-Letter I. Webminister to H.

Re-Letter J. Reservations to the Board to I.

Current text:

VII. H. The Chirurgeon

Proposed change:

Delete H. The Chirurgeon

Re-letter items I through M to H through L.

Corpora VI. D. Marshal of the Society

Current text:

The Marshal of the Society is responsible for activities related to combat, archery and equestrian activities. This includes directing the Earls Marshal of the Kingdoms in matters concerning the supervision of combat and related activities at Society events and the manner and conduct of duties of all marshals throughout the Society; working with the Society Chirurgeon to promote safety in the Society's martial arts; and working with the Minister of Arts and Sciences to encourage research in armor and weapons. The Board specifically authorizes the Marshal to make interpretations and clarifications regarding the Rules of the Lists, with the proviso that such rulings must be reported to the Board at the following meeting. The Marshal's rulings will stand until and unless overruled by the Board.

Proposed text:

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Current text:

VI. H. The Chirurgeon

The Society Chirurgeon is responsible for organizing a program of volunteer first aid services and health-and safety hazard warnings to be made available whenever feasible at Society events, and for establishing policies for and coordinating the activities of the Kingdom Chirurgeons.

Proposed text:

Delete VI. H.

Re-letter I and J to H and I.

Current text:

VII. KINGDOM, PRINCIPALITY, AND LOCAL OFFICERS

A. General

1. Officers assist Royalty in the administration of the lands and branches of the realm. Each officer has a spe-

Officers

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Baron and Baroness

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Baronness Mael Mide ingen Domnaill (mka Melissa Webber)
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Head of Household

• Lady Jeanette du Vallier

Ladies in Waiting

- Lady Elora von Effyn; Head Lady-in-Waiting
- Lady Isabeau de Bernac
- Lady Samantha Kennington
- Madame Adelaisa Bernois
- Lady Abigail MacNaught
- Isabella Francesco
- Viola di Luca

Captains of the Guard

- Lord Antoine de Vallier
- Master Thorsinn Vandringsmann

Guard

- Lord Connal Mac an Druaidh
- Lord Maxamillian Kern
- Veronica Francesco

Court Herald

- THL Robert Huntman

Largess Coordinator

- THL Bronwen of Hindscroft

Photo by Lady Bree Pye of Caer Galen

Who Are We?

The Barony of Dragonsspine is a local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA), within the Kingdom of the Outlands.

The SCA is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to learning more about the Middle Ages through reenactment. There are SCA chapters worldwide and they hold regular feasts, tournaments, balls and battles.

The Outlands includes New Mexico, Colorado and parts of Texas and Wyoming.

Dragonsspine includes El Paso County, Colorado—centered on Colorado Springs, CO.

Wherever you are, we're a friendly group of people, so why not visit us all?

We're on the Web at:

www.dragonsspine.outlands.org

We're also on Facebook as

Barony of Dragonsspine

Join our Yahoo group here

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